

The Democratic Standard.

DEVOTED TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS—THE DIFFUSION OF GENERAL INTELLIGENCE—AND THE REFORM OF ALL POLITICAL ABUSES.

BY D. P. PALMER.

GEORGETOWN, O., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1844.

NEW SERIES.—VOL. V. No. 7.

TERMS OF THE STANDARD.

ONE YEAR, IN ADVANCE, \$200
WITHIN THE YEAR, 2 50
AT THE EXPIRATION OF THE YEAR, 3 00
Payments will be considered in advance if made within three months after subscribing. No paper will be discontinued, (unless at the option of the publisher,) until all arrearages are paid.

RICES OF ADVERTISING.

One (12 lines) three insertions, \$1 00
For each subsequent insertion, 25
For six months, 5 00
For twelve months, 10 00
Larger advertisements will be charged in the same proportion.

A reasonable deduction will be made on yearly advertisements.

All orders for advertising or job-work must be accompanied by the cash, except from those who have accounts with the office. Office in the north end of the Market Building.

CLAY'S SOUTHERN FACE! WHAT NEXT?

"PERSONALLY I COULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS."

Henry Clay.

Look at Mr. Clay's "latest" (to use a modest word of the Journal) notion on Texas! Did the world ever witness such two faced, JANUS FACED leader of a faction? One day the dupes of Mr. Clay in this region are threatening a dissolution of this mighty Union if Texas is annexed—the next they are twisting their faces in a dozen shapes to follow their leader to annexation! But a few days ago the Journal, of this city, threatened the safety of the Union, if Texas was annexed. Now, they go Clay who "should be glad to see" it annexed!

Yes, "GLAD" is the word! Where is Tom Ewing? Where is Tom Corwin? Where is Belmont Sizer and Senator Evans of Maine, and the rest of the family? How about that Texas debt of eighty millions, and all the other "raw head and bloody bones" of the cotton rotors in Ohio? Are they not in a pretty, laughable, yes, a most contemptible position? Here is the letter to John M. Jackson and Thomas M. Peters, of Alabama. Read, its good for the eyes!

"I do not think that the subject of SLAVERY should affect the question one way or the other."—Oh! Blush ye silly coun. orators, who make slavery the great thread of your harangues. From the Tusculum North. Alabamian of August 19, and the Ohio State Journal of August 27, 1844.

ASHLAND, 27th July, 1844.

Gentlemen—I received your favor informing me that my views, as disclosed in my letter from Raleigh, on the question of the Annexation of Texas, are misconceived, if not misrepresented in your quarter; and that it is supposed that I have changed my opinion from what it was in 1819. I endeavored to express myself in that letter as explicitly as I could, and I do not think now that it can be fairly misrepresented.

In 1819, when I addressed the House of Representatives, the Executive had negotiated the treaty with Spain, by which Texas was ceded to that power, but Congress had not then given any sanction to the cession. I believe now, as I thought then, that the Treaty-making power is not competent, without the concurrence of Congress, to cede away any Territory belonging to the United States. But Congress, by repeated acts, subsequently manifested its approbation of the treaty; and these acts rendered it as valid and obligatory upon the United States, as if Congress had given its assent prior to the conclusion of the treaty. At that period of 1819, Texas was claimed by us, was unpopulated. No hostile incursions had been made into it by citizens of the United States. In 1825 and 1827, there were but few inhabitants of Texas, consisting of some colonists, planted there under the authority of Mexico. At neither of the three periods above mentioned had any State or section, in this Union, manifested any opposition to Texas composing a part of it. It has been said that Mr. Adams' administration offered to negotiate with Mexico for Texas, notwithstanding the existence of a war between Spain and Mexico, and that it could not therefore have believed that the acquisition of Texas, at that time, would have involved the United States in war with Spain. Hence it is argued that the ratification of the late treaty could not have compromised our place.

Mr. Adams thought it desirable to obtain Texas. Two foreign powers claimed it. Mexico was in possession, and Spain was doing nothing to assert and enforce her claim. Her representative had even gone so far as to stipulate, in a convention, to acknowledge the independence of Mexico, although that convention was not ratified by Spain.

Mr. Adams had a right to authorize the negotiation of a treaty for the acquisition of Texas with both or either of the powers claiming it. It was natural that he should begin with that power which had the possession of Texas. Spain had interposed no obstacle. She had made

no declaration that she would regard the acquisition of Texas as an act of war. In point of fact, no overt act was formal made to Mexico to purchase Texas, no negotiation was opened, no treaty was concluded.

If a negotiation had commenced, or if a treaty had been signed and Spain had protested, the prudent and cautious policy which characterized Mr. Adams' administration, would undoubtedly have prompted him to quiet Spain, and accommodate the matter, previous to the annexation of Texas to the United States, and without plunging them in war with Spain. How totally different are all the circumstances under which, with Mr. Adams' authority, I authorized the overture to Mexico, from those which attended the recent treaty of Mr. Tyler! So far from Mexico being silent, she repeatedly and solemnly declared that she would consider annexation as war with her. Texas was no longer an uninhabited country. It had been wrested from the dominion of Mexico by citizens, many of whom went armed from the United States. The war between Mexico and Texas had not been terminated by any treaty of peace. Mr. Tyler not only did not consult Mexico, but he announced that her assent to the annexation was altogether unnecessary. And he proceeded to conclude a treaty, embracing a large extent of territory and a numerous population, not comprehended in the Texas which the United States ceded to Spain in 1819.

In the mean time, too, a powerful opposition had arisen in the United States against the annexation of Texas to them. Several States had declared, through their legislatures, against it, and others, if not whole sections of the Union, were believed to be adverse to it. This was the opposition to the measure, to which, in my Raleigh letter, I alluded, when I spoke of a "considerable and respectable portion of the confederacy." I did not refer to persons but to States or sections.

Under such circumstances, I could not but regard the annexation of Texas, at this time, as compromising the honor of my country, involving it in a war, in which the sympathies of all Christians would be against us, and endangering the integrity of the Union. I thought then, and still believe, that national dishonor, foreign war, and distraction and division at home, were too great sacrifices to make for the acquisition of Texas.

But, gentlemen, you are desirous of knowing by what policy I would be guided, in the event of my election as Chief Magistrate of the United States, in reference to the question of the annexation of Texas. I do not think it right to announce in advance what will be the course of a future administration in respect to a question with a foreign power. I have, however, no hesitation in saying that, far from having any personal objection to the annexation of Texas, I SHOULD BE GLAD TO SEE IT, without dishonor, without war, with the common consent of the Union, and upon just and fair terms. I DO NOT THINK THAT THE SUBJECT OF SLAVERY OUGHT TO AFFECT THE QUESTION ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. Whether Texas be independent or incorporated in the United States, I do not believe it will prolong or shorten the duration of that institution. It is destined to become extinct, at some distant day, in my opinion, by the operation of the inevitable laws of population. It would be unwise to refuse a permanent acquisition, which will exist as long as the globe remains, on account of a temporary institution.

In the contingency of my election, to which you have adverted, if the affair of acquiring Texas should become a subject of consideration, I should be governed by the state of fact, and the state of public opinion, existing at the time I might be called upon to act. Above all, I should be governed by the paramount duty of preserving this Union entire, and in harmony, regarding it as I do, the great guaranty of every political and public blessing, under Providence, which as a free people, we are permitted to enjoy. I am, gentlemen, respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

H. CLAY.

Correspondence of the Ohio Statesman.

THE GREAT TENNESSEE UNION CONVENTION.

NASHVILLE, (Tenn.) 22d Aug., 1844.

DEAR SIR:

I arrived here on Wednesday, 11th inst., and on the following day, Thursday, 15th, attended the great Mass Meeting, or Convention of the democrats of Tennessee, and other States, in pursuance of the notice given some weeks previous. The meeting was large, and was pervaded by a spirit of enthusiasm beyond what was expected—our great meeting at Car-

thage, in 1840, not by any means being equal in numbers, or in enthusiastic demonstration.

The meeting was called to order by nominating that veteran in democracy, the Hon. Cave Johnson, member of Congress, of Tennessee, for President, and the nomination was responded to by the multitude, with a shout that made the welkin ring again. The venerable President made an appropriate and spirited address to the people present, which speech was received and applauded with heart inspiring acclamations; which proved that the speaker was highly esteemed and beloved by the multitude composing the meeting. When the Chairman introduced, to the notice of the meeting, Gen. Lewis Cass, of Michigan, he announced his intention of addressing the people present, which he performed in a speech of about three quarters of an hour—in which, he, in a most temperate and gentlemanly manner, explained the principles held and avowed by the democracy of the Union, and most emphatically recommended the nominees of the Baltimore Democratic Convention, as the candidates for President and Vice President of the United States. With Mr. Polk he said he was intimately acquainted, and had the most implicit confidence in his talents and integrity. As for Mr. Dallas, he was not so well acquainted with him, but his character stood so high in the United States, as well as in the State of his nativity, Pennsylvania, that he had no doubt of his talents being fully equal to the high duties required of him. The speech was well conceived, handsomely delivered, and received with the enthusiastic applause always rendered by honest democrats, when they hear their principles explained and dilated upon.

Gen. Cass was followed by Mr. Melville, of New York; a most powerful and enthusiastic speaker—with wit and words at his will—abounding in anecdote—and telling them in a manner so witty and humorous as to keep his audience in a perpetual roar of laughter and good humor. So far as I can judge, Mr. Melville deserves to be ranked among the first of stump speakers, and the foremost in democracy. He frequently expressed himself apprehensive of being tiresome, but the shouts of "Go on! go on!" reverberated from front to rear, and from centre to flank, induced him to go on for above two hours—and it was even with regret that the meeting that he brought his speech to a close.

It is not my intention to give an elaborate statement of the meeting, resolutions, &c., &c., as that duty has been performed by the editor of the Nashville Union—or did I intend giving any account of it at all, but being a witness to the contrast between that of the democrats of the 15th, and the federalists on the 21st, (yesterday), I could not help giving such a passing notice as the thermometer of 94 degrees will permit, which I am aware will be both spiritless and inefficient but such as it is I present it to you, and may burn or publish it, as best suits you.

The Union has estimated the number of the democrats to be 50,000, and more who witnessed the scene will say it has been underrated, than the contrary. Well sir, those 50,000 honest democrats assembled, held their meeting, and returned from it in good order, and in the manner of free and civilized people, without confusion or disturbance, and without accident.

On the contrary, the federalists held their meeting yesterday, at which there were about as many men, women and children, as there were men of age and qualified voters at the democratic meeting; and the women and children composing at least one half of the number, and what was the consequence? Why, many wretches were laying in the streets dead drunk—two men dead on the camp ground, with the intolerable heat—a scuffle in the streets in the afternoon, in which one man was shot in the breast and also in the back—two balls were extracted, supposed to be those entering the breast, and those entering the back not yet found. In the latter wound the coat is perforated and burnt under the hole in the coat, and the body under or opposite to both. Another man had one eye scooped out, and the other materially injured. He was cut and mangled in other parts of his body.

The gentleman who has been hurt the worst, was endeavoring to make peace between the combatants—is a democrat of high character, and the assailants belong to that party who assume to be all the decency party, and to be the superiors of their opponents, who, to use the language of some of our good neighbors, are nothing but the "Harrab boys"—the lawless spirits of the age, banded together to put down all law and order in community.

To describe the proceedings of "all the decency party" here last night,

would be only to describe some of the fandangoes of 1840 in various parts of Ohio; such as that in Columbus on the 22d February, and that in Cincinnati on the 5th October, same year, with this exception—leave out the log cabins and cider barrels; of which those gentlemen seem now to be ashamed, and substitute 137 portable transparencies carried round the city at night—an abundance of rack-coats—pictures of Mr. Clay, and of angels. This was an humble imitation of a much greater number of transparencies carried around on the 15th at night, by the Texan Association here, representing the lone star of Texas, and on some occasions thrown together in constellations with excellent effect.

The Gentry who assume all the decency, usually have their brains in their pockets, and have always been outdone in ingenuity by the "filthy mechanics"—to use the polite language of one of Clay's parasites, John H. Pleasants, of Virginia. While these childish exhibitions were in progress, and the public square rendered dangerous by fire balls, these demagogues were making speeches in other quarters to a few of their gaping hearers, who were entertained with the most bare-faced falsehoods as to the issue of the late elections—not one of which were honestly represented. But the polite part of the audience had other attractions than to listen to those slanders and lies that were uttered by such chaps as the expelled Prentiss of Mississippi, who, I am told, asserted that the late election in Kentucky terminated in the defeat of the democrats by a majority of 12,000; when his name-sake and co-laborer in infamy, in Louisville, acknowledged that Owsley's majority is but 4,500.

I regret that the extreme heat of the weather incapacitated me from giving you a more graphic view of this boasted fandango, so like those of '40, but I must give our friends a hint that the expense attending this exhibition shows clearly that they have got a supply of cash, but from what source I cannot divine—and that the pipe layers must be well watched at the next election. And I am also obliged to say that I have neither heard a speaker here, or any where else, say a word upon the subject of the rejection of Duncan's bill by the Senate—a most prolific subject for both stumpers and editors—and yet none of them have laid hold on it. It appears to me that the federal party in the Senate must have had some views of obtaining funds to play the same game in '44 that they played in 1840. Why not, then, expose the villainy, and warn the people against pipe laying?

I am too warm to write more, the sheet is nearly full, and the article is already too long. You will therefore readily excuse me from going farther than to say that I am,

Yours, &c.

A DEMOCRAT.

P. S. The funeral of a young man who died from the heat and fatigue of yesterday, is now passing. He is to be buried with military honors.

DISUNION.

Democrats, whenever you hear a coon cauting about disunion, Nullification, &c., and charging Polk and the Democracy with striving to annex Texas to the United States, when it was once a portion of our own soil, talking of John C. Calhoun &c., just gently jog his memory of the Nullification of our State Government, by the abrogation of the whig members of the Ohio Legislature but two years ago. Just ask him why his party approved of that act of treason against Constitution, law peace and harmony. Ask him where was Tom Corwin at the time that infamous act was consummated, who now prates so eloquently and patriotically about the importance of rejecting Texas, that the Union may be preserved? Where was Judge Wright of the Cincinnati Gazette, who now is so horrified at Nullification? Was he not one of the plotters of the act? Where was Tom Ewing, who in our market-space the other night with meek-hypocrisy unsurpassed, appealed to his hearers to oppose the incorporation of Texas & save the Union? Was he not another of the traitors on that memorable occasion? Ask them these questions, and tell them that their warmly expressed love for Union, and Constitution and civil Government, are but the shallow cant of men who were traitors when treason had reared its head in our midst,—but the vapors of men who have been condemned by the strong voice of public opinion—by the edict of the ballot box—as rebels against the constituted tribunals of their country and nullifiers of her laws and authorities. Men who succeeded for a time in overthrowing the law making power of Ohio by violence almost as wicked as that of the sword and bayonet, must have the impudence of Lucifer himself to falsely charge upon others what they have done, and demand from the people that con-

demnation which has so lately heaped odium upon themselves!—Cin. Eng.

MECHANICS' MEETING.

Ripley, August 28, 1844.

A meeting of the working men of the town of Ripley was held in the Music Saloon, for the purpose of forming a mechanics or working men's association, also to draw up resolutions to instruct or request the legislators of the State of Ohio to so modify the convict labor in the penitentiary so as it will not come in contact with the honest labor of the Mechanics of our country.

On motion, SAMUEL JOLLY was appointed Chairman of the meeting, and J. C. CAMPBELL, Secretary.

On motion, Benjamin Goldsberry, Wm. Norris, Hayden Thompson, Travis Boswell, Vinton Lane, Ralph M. Jenkins, and J. C. Campbell were appointed a committee to draw up resolutions and report them at our next meeting.

On motion, the meeting adjourned until Friday evening August the 30th inst.

August 30, 1844.

A large and respectable meeting of the working men of Ripley met again in the Music Saloon, when the committee submitted the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted.

PREAMBLE.

Whereas, all free governments are intended for the greatest good to the greatest number, and whereas, all laws are made for the protection of individuals or communities, and when it is ascertained that a law does not carry out the two foregoing fundamental rules of free government, it is the privilege, nay the duty, of the governed to ask the repeal or modification of those laws; therefore,

Resolved, That we, the mechanics or working men of the town of Ripley in the county of Brown, deem it derogatory to the character, the morals and the prosperity of her mechanics, as well as others of the producing classes, for convict labor to come in direct competition with the free labor throughout the states and that they demand a thorough change in the affairs of the penitentiary of Ohio.

Resolved, that we will use all honorable and lawful means to abolish the present unjust and injurious system of convict labor so far as it may conflict with the honest labor of the state.

Resolved, that we will instruct our Representative in the next general assembly to use his influence to effect a change in the laws which authorize the directors and wardens of the Ohio Penitentiary to employ the convicts in the manner most profitable to the State, in such manner that their labor shall not come in direct conflict with the mechanical labor of the State.

Resolved, That we will petition the next general assembly for a redress of those grievances.

Resolved, That we most heartily concur in the preambles and resolutions of the State convention held at Newark in July last.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Democratic Standard and the Political Examiner of Georgetown, B. C. O.

SAMUEL JOLLY, Chairman.

J. C. CAMPBELL, Secretary.

AWFUL SUFFERINGS AT SEA.

The New York Courier has received the following account of shipwreck and suffering from Captain Berry, of the ship Vicksburg, arrived at New York from New Orleans, being extracted from the log book. August 6th, lat. 25th 27, lon. 87, 46, W., an object having the appearance of a boat, was discovered on the weather beam; the ship's course was immediately altered towards it, and on reaching it, was hove to, and the boat taken alongside and seven persons received on board, who proved to be the Captain and crew late of the Br. schooner Orange, lost on the voyage from Jamaica for Matanzas, viz: Alexander McDonald Master, Wm. Young, Mate, Edward Cook Richard Evans, John Brown, William Roscoe, seamen, and Robert Wilkinson, Cook, having been thirteen days in the boat, which was only fourteen feet long. They were all, as might be expected, weakened in a critical state, and

three of them had to be lifted on board. The youngest of them, Wm. Roscoe, was much emaciated and totally insensible, and although every means were made use of to restore him, he only survived about three hours, and at sunset his body was deposited in the sailor's grave, with the solemn and oppressive burial service of the Protestant Episcopal Church. During the night the mate was delirious, but has since with the rest almost regained his health. Their thirst was most tormenting, and much care was at first taken in administering water to them, and it was not until the third day that their thirst was satiated, at which time each person had used about three gallons of water.

Captain McDonald stated that on the 24th July, at 2 P. M., when about the latitude 22 45, longitude 85 4 West, the schooner was captured in a sudden squall from the eastward; the layards of the weather rigging were immediately cut away, but the ballast having shifted and the sails and masts being in the water, all hope of righting her was at once lost. Fortunately, at the same time that the vessel capsized the jolly boat, being stowed bottom up on the long boat, turned over in the water, and all hands succeeded in getting in and got clear of the vessel, which had almost at the same moment, disappeared. They were left to the mercy of the winds and the waves without provision or water, or even an ear to guide the boat. Part of one of the masts was broken up and made use of to steer with, and the boat was kept before the sea until daylight. During the day the linings and foot boards were taken off and converted into a mast, on which was spread the captain's shirt for a sail, and the boat was steered in a southward direction in hopes of falling in with the land. In the afternoon a bark was seen to the westward steering towards them, and when about two miles off bore to for a short time, and hauled southerly for about half an hour, and before sunset she was again steering westward.

On the 25th, there being no appearance of land, the boat's course was now altered to the westward, before the sea, with the hope of falling in with some vessel. From this time to 25th, the wind continued from the eastward, and the boat was steered westerly. On this day, for the first time, it rained about two hours, and by using two pairs of shoes, which were all they had among them, and by wringing their clothes, they succeeded in getting about half a pint of water each. From this day to the 31st they continued without seeing any vessel and without water. On this day and the day following it rained three or four hours, and sufficient water was obtained to quench their thirst for the time; from this to the 6th of August, the wind was from the south-east and the boat's course was to the north-west, and no water was obtained, during which time their sufferings were very great; on one of these days a piece of bamboo was picked up and found to contain four small fishes about two inches long, which were divided, and this was the only article of food they hid while in the boat. On the morning of the 6th three ships passed them; but it was supposed that the boat was not seen from them. They were, however, soon afterwards gratified with the sight of the ship which afforded them relief, on board of which they received all care and attention.

LETTER FROM COL. POLK.

COLUMBIA, (Tenn.) June 19, 1844.

Dear Sir:—I have received recently several letters in reference to my opinions on the subject of the tariff, and among others yours of the 30th ultimo. My opinions on this subject have been given to the public.—They are to be found in my public acts, and in the public discussions in which I have participated.

I am in favor of a tariff for revenue, such a one as will yield a sufficient amount to the Treasury to defray the expenses of the Government economically administered. In adjusting the details of a revenue tariff, I have heretofore sanctioned such moderate discriminating duties as would produce the amount of revenue needed, and at the same time afford reasonable incidental protection to our home industry. I am opposed to a tariff for protection merely, and not for revenue.

Acting upon general principles, it is well known that I gave my support, to the policy of Gen. Jackson's administration on this subject. I voted against the tariff act of 1828. I voted for the act of 1832, which contained modifications of some of the objectionable provisions of the act of 1828. As a member of the committee of Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, I gave my assent to a bill reported by that Committee in December, 1832, making further modifications to the act of 1828, and